Item No. 15 (Pg 234)

III-15-1

POINT PAPER

4 NOV 1986

ON

ANTISATELLITE (ASAT) OPTIONS (U)

- (U) Congressional actions for FY87 program:
  - (U) No intercept testing against objects in space.
  - (U) No Production Verification (PV) for the Miniature Vehicle (MV).
  - (U) Limits FY87 expenditures to $200M, EXCEPT only
    - (U) Zeroed 3020 funds for long lead missile components.
    - (U) Zeroed 3080 funds for Mission Control Center (MCC).
    - (U) Reduced 3600 funds from $278M to $200M.
- (S) NSDD 4-86, signed by President Reagan, 20 Oct 86, calls for SECDEF recommendations regarding US ASAT options--report NLT 12 Dec 86.
  - (U) Air-Launched ASAT a "good first step," but "support has eroded due to high cost, limited capability."
  - (U) Enhanced performance expected from newer systems, given development time.
  - (U) US ASAT capability must be continued in some form.
    - (U) Options should provide a capability in early 1990s without requirement for intercept testing against objects in space during next two years.
  - (S) AF team provided guidance at joint RDS, XOS kick-off meeting, 29-30 Oct, at Pentagon--XPD representatives participated.
- (S) XPD established two goals for the study (effects priorities of FY87 expenditures): 1) maximize ability to bring on a viable contingency capability; 2) provide sound basis for decisions on follow-on systems.

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EXEMPT ON: OADR

- (U) Spectrum of Air-Launched ASAT program options initially identified by AF for study:

  -- (S) Terminate, no FY88 funds: 3-4 RDT&E missiles, contingency capability at Edwards AFB with O&M funds in FY88 and beyond.

  -- (S) Continue R&D funding until all RDT&E assets delivered--mid FY89: 8-10 RDT&E missiles, contingency capability at Edwards AFB with O&M funds in mid FY89 and beyond.

  -- (S) All RDT&E assets delivered and retrofitted with performance modifications, upgraded PMOC, upgraded support equipment, aircraft modified, capability maintained at Edwards AFB with O&M funds in mid FY90 and beyond (~~maintains~~ provides viable contingency capability).

  -- (S) Recover to full production program as requested in FY87 President's Budget: complete RDT&E program, 35 production missiles deployed at Langley AFB.

- (S) Requirement for new technologies is hard kill capability up to b(1) altitude--allows engagement of all low earth orbit threat satellites with margin for potential future systems.

- (U) Measures of merit for evaluating systems include: altitude/reach capability, lethality, C^3/surveillance requirements, responsiveness for engagements, technical risk, cost, time for development.

- (S) ~~New technologies~~ primary concepts being considered include: improved lower stage for air-launched MV, ground-launched MV, b(1) Ground-Based Lasers (GBL), ~~space-based KEW and SBL~~.

- (S) Congressional intent ~~is to keep~~ (appears to be) ASAT in perpetual R&D mode--no deployment ~~at this time~~. Might allow contingency, but a very delicate issue.

- (U) Administration searching for ways to save/bolster program.

- (U) Expect CUSDR&E (Dr Woodruff) to kick off longer term study to work more detailed assessment between Dec 86 and Jun 87. ~~of ASAT options~~

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DCS Approved

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